



Commonwealth of Kentucky
Kentucky Department of Corrections

For Immediate Release

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**Rick Rowlette Promoted to Warden
at Blackburn Correctional Complex**

FRANKFORT, Ky. (August 31, 2015) – Kentucky Department of Corrections Commissioner LaDonna H. Thompson today announced the promotion of Richard W. (Rick) Rowlette to warden at Blackburn Correctional Complex (BCC) in Lexington. He will assume his new duties Sept. 1.

“Rick Rowlette is a valuable corrections professional with nearly 34 years experience,” said Thompson. “The staff and inmates at Blackburn Correctional Complex will benefit from his leadership and experience.”

Rowlette began his career with the Virginia Department of Corrections in 1982 as an officer at the James River Correctional Center. In 1984 he transferred to the Powhatan Correctional Center (PCC). While at PCC, Rowlette rose through the ranks to sergeant, lieutenant, and captain, and he served on the Institutional Strike Force for seven years.

In 1997, Rowlette was promoted to the rank of major where he served as chief of security at Red Onion State Prison, Virginia’s first super-max facility. He served as chief of security at three other facilities over the next nine years before being promoted to assistant warden in 2007 and returning to Red Onion State Prison. In 2010 he transferred to the Pocahontas State Correctional Center where he served as assistant warden.

Rowlette was awarded two Virginia Department of Corrections’ commendations for outstanding performance of duties during his career.

In 2013, Rowlette was appointed deputy warden of programs at Northpoint Training Center in Boyle County and in 2014 he was named deputy warden of operations.

Rowlette graduated from J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College with an associate’s degree in the administration of justice. He then received his bachelor’s degree in criminal justice from Bluefield College. He was designated as a certified correctional executive by the American Correctional Association (ACA) and was a certified general instructor with the Department of Criminal Justice Services.

Rowlette is a member of the Kentucky Council on Crime and Delinquency (KCCD), a past member of the Wise County Anti-Terrorism Advisory Counsel, the United States Deputy Warden’s Association, and the American Correctional Association.

Editor’s note: photo attached

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